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MARKET RASEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
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ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
DR. R.J.R. MECREDY, B.A. M.B. B.Ch. B.A.O. & D.P.H.

For the year 1948

Together with

THE STATISTICAL REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR  
JOHN POTTS, M.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.

31st December, 1948.



THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARKET RASEN.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1948.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Nettleship and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1948 :

Notifiable Diseases. 68 Cases of infectious disease were notified during the year. This great increase on 1947 (when only 9 cases were notified) was chiefly due to a severe epidemic of measles which occurred in the winter to spring months when 60 cases were reported. 6 Cases of whooping cough were also notified as against a nil return for 1947. Two cases of scarlet fever were notified making up the total of 68. You will note that no notifications of tubercular infection or diphtheria were recorded.

Two cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted to Osgodby Hospital. It should also be recorded that no diphtheria has been notified for six years.

An increase in the number of children immunised against diphtheria was also recorded. 41 Children under 5 years of age and 5 between 5 and 15 years were immunised as against a total of 27 for all age groups in 1947.

16 Children received a further protective immunisation (booster) during the year. There are still too high a number of children who have not been protected against diphtheria in the Urban District.

Housing. Steady progress was made during the year. 20 Council houses were completed and occupied during the year and 14 more were in course of construction. The corresponding figures for 1947 were 2 and 6. No new houses were built by private enterprise during the year. The expansion of the town in this respect is taking place into Middle Raseen Parish. Closing Orders were issued for 14 separate tenement houses. Only three individual occupiers from these remained to be rehoused at the end of the year. It is hoped that these will be rehoused in small bungalows.

Sanitation and Sewage Disposal. 10 Closet conversions were made during the year with connections to the sewer. This brings the total of water closets in the town to 319 and the number of privy and pit closets still out-number this at 377. Nightsoil collection has diminished to that extent. In a compact township with sewerage installed this cannot be regarded as satisfactory. It is to be hoped that a more rapid rate of conversions will be attained in the future.

14 New soil and vent shafts were installed during the year. The Sewage Works at Middle Raseen continued to cause trouble during the year. The intake of sand and excessive subsoil or drain water has led to a very high cost of upkeep. It is difficult to see how this can be improved or corrected without a major capital expenditure on the sewage scheme as a whole.

Refuse Collection. The weight of refuse collected has tended to increase during the year. The ground available for tipping is becoming scarcer and the area utilised at the Racecourse has been almost exhausted. A further area should be available shortly in lowlying fields of the



Woodhill Farm, Lagsby Road.

Food and Milk Inspections. Of two pigs slaughtered locally one was found to have generalised tuberculosis and was condemned.

94 Lbs. of home killed beef examined in shops was condemned and withdrawn from sale. Various tins of food to the number of 35 were also found unfit.

Inspections of milk suppliers and vendors has been maintained throughout the year and the standard in this respect can be regarded as satisfactory.

Water Supplies. The quality of the water supplied remains satisfactory. Three bacteriological and three chemical tests made throughout the year were quite satisfactory. As stated in earlier reports the water is very hard.

Fewer reports of low pressure were received than in previous years. In this respect the linking up of dependents by the Water Company has effected an improvement.

Five houses on a supply from taps in yards in the District have had piped supply taken indoors. Installation of sinks was carried out. Two houses have had modern bathroom installations made.

The number of houses supplied direct from the mains is now 243 while 419 houses still depend upon communal taps in the yards.

The number of inhabitants in this category is still far too high at approximately 1374 while 826 are adequately supplied in their houses.

Continued and more rapid improvement in this matter of water supply inside the house is very desirable.

#### General and Vital Statistics.

##### Area of District.

Land	972 acres.	
Water	4 acres.	
Population	2200 (estimate).	
Habitable houses	701	
Rateable Value	£11176	
Number of live births	20 male.	24 female.
Illegitimate births	0 male.	2 female.
Total deaths	17 male.	18 female.
Deaths from all puerperal causes		Nil
Still births		Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year of age	- male.	1 female.

##### Notifiable Diseases.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Nil
Whooping Cough.	6
Scarlet Fever.	2
Measles.	60
Total	68.

##### Causes of Death.

##### Civilians only.

Bronchitis.	4 male.	
Pneumonia.	1 male.	
Infant Diseases.		1 female.
Other respiratory Diseases.		1 female.
Cancer of all other sites.	2 male.	2 female.
Intracranial Vascular Lesions.	5 male.	5 female.
Heart Disease.	3 male.	3 female.
Other diseases of system.	1 male.	



Causes of Death (Continued)

Nephritis.	1 male.	
All other causes.		6 female.
	17 male.	18 female.

Summary of Inspections made for the Year 1948 by the  
Sanitary Inspector. are as follows:

Public Health inspections.	168
" " re-inspections.	228
Inspections due to overcrowding.	4
Housing maintenance repairs.	42
Infectious Disease.	10
Rooms disinfected.	8
Dirty Houses.	2
Verminous premises.	1
Rooms disinfested.	3
Articles destroyed for Vermin and Infectious disease.	2
Refuse collections.	38
" Bins.	15
Factories.	49
Drainage.	29
" (testing).	25
Shops and Food.	20
Fried Fish Shops.	3
Meat Shops.	12
Bekehouses.	16
Cowsheds and Dairies.	80
Closets and Conveniences.	49
Rats and Mice.	14
Water supply.	6
Various matters not included above.	43

I would draw the attention of the Council to the large number of inspections and re-inspections carried out by Mr. Potts, Sanitary Inspector, in the Urban District. I think he is to be congratulated on the volume of work accomplished.

In conclusion I wish to thank you, Sir, and the Members of your Council for the co-operation you have extended to me in the execution of my duties.

I have the honour to be gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,

R.J.R. MECREDY, B.A. B.Ch. B.A.O.  
D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

